



USDA EGG MARKET NEWS REPORT

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NATIONAL EGG MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Prices were unchanged. The market tone was barely steady to weak entering the weekend. Retail demand was light to moderate, best where features were being planned. Loose egg movement improved slightly from early week trading and was noted as light to at times fairly good. Supplies of the larger sizes remained fully adequate to ample while the lighter weight eggs ranged balanced to mostly sufficient. Breaking stock offerings were fully adequate to ample for the light demand. Breaking schedules were reported as normal. Spent hen offerings were more than sufficient for regular slaughter schedules.

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED WAREHOUSE, CENTS PER DOZEN.

MIDWEST REGIONAL EGG Prices to producers in IA-MN-WI were lower for all sizes. Other reported prices were unchanged. Trade sentiment was barely steady to at times weak. Cartoned egg sales were light to moderate with planned features stirring some extra interest for next week. Loose egg demand was generally moderate and slightly improved from earlier in the week. Supplies were fully adequate to ample for large and extra large and usually adequate for the balance.

	RANGE	MOSTLY	IA-MN-WI Prices paid to producers.	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	69-78	73-75	LARGE	47-54	49
LARGE	69-77	71-74	MEDIUM	42-46	44
MEDIUM	60-66	63-65	SMALL	28-30	

MIDWEST AREA: IA,IL,IN,KY,MI,MN,OH,NE,ND,SD,WI,WV,Western NY, and Western PA

NORTHEAST REGIONAL EGG Prices were unchanged. The market tone was unsettled entering the weekend. Demand was light to moderate. Supplies were adequate to available with the larger sizes remaining in the longest position. Breaking stock offerings were fully adequate for the light demand. Schedules were reported as usually normal. Spent hens were more than sufficient for the at least moderate demand. Processing schedules were noted as normal for the upcoming week.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	77-91	77-80
LARGE	71-85	76-80
MEDIUM	60-73	66-67

NORTHEAST AREA: CT, DC, DE, MA, MD, ME, NH, Eastern NJ, Eastern NY, PA, RI, Northern VA, and VT

SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL EGG Prices unchanged. Trade sentiment was barely steady to instances weak. Cartoned egg sales were light to moderate, best for feature activity planned for next week. Loose egg demand was moderate to at times fairly good. Supplies were fully adequate to ample for large and extra large and usually adequate for the balance. Central states breaking stock prices were lower. Demand was light as many breakers were satisfied with current inventories or were awaiting lower prices on breaking stock. Offerings continued ample and included heavy graded loose shell eggs. Floor stocks fully adequate to ample. Schedules full-time. Trade sentiment weak.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	78.5-87	80-83
LARGE	74.5-83	76-79
MEDIUM	64.5-73	66-69

SOUTH CENTRAL AREA: AR,AZ,CO,KS,LA,MO,NM,OK, and TX

SOUTHEAST REGIONAL EGG Prices were unchanged. The market tone was barely steady to weak entering the weekend. Retail demand ranged light to moderate. Supplies of medium eggs were adequate while the remaining sizes were readily available for current trade requirements. Breaking stock offerings were fully sufficient for the light and unaggressive demand. Breaking schedules were generally normal. Light type fowl were more than adequate for the at least moderate demand. Processing schedules were noted as regular for the upcoming week.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	75.5-83	77-80
LARGE	74-81	75-78
MEDIUM	61.5-69	62-66

SOUTHEAST AREA: AL, FL, GA, MS, NC, SC, Eastern TN, and Southern VA

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED STORE DOOR, CENTS PER DOZEN.

NEW YORK EGGS Prices were unchanged. The market tone was barely steady entering the weekend. Demand was light. Supplies ranged adequate to available with heavier weights in the longest position.

	RANGE
EXTRA LARGE	80-84
LARGE	78-82
MEDIUM	72-76

CHICAGO AND MIDWEST EGGS Prices were unchanged. The market tone was barely steady to weak. Retail and food service demand was light to moderate. Supplies of lighter weights were balanced, larger sizes available.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	75-83	77-79
LARGE	74-82	75-78
MEDIUM	65-74	68-70

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WESTERN REGION EGG Prices unchanged. The market tone was steady on jumbo, weak on the balance with asking prices for next week throughout the region unchanged on jumbo, 5 cents lower on extra large and large, and 1 cent lower on medium. Retailer demand light to moderate. Offerings generally ample.

CALIFORNIA EGGS Prices unchanged. The market tone was steady on jumbo, weak on the balance. Asking prices for next week were unchanged on jumbo, 5 cents lower on extra large and large, and 1 cent lower on medium and small. Retailer demand light to moderate. Offerings easily adequate. Small benchmark price 80. Ads in Southern California: major- large dozen buy 1 get 1free; smaller outlets- large dozen 79 with coupon.

CALIFORNIA California Egg Marketing Association and other marketers benchmark price for negotiated egg sales of USDA Grade AA and Grade AA in cartons, cents per dozen. This price does not reflect discounts or other contract terms.

	RANGE
JUMBO	121
EXTRA LARGE	117
LARGE	109
MEDIUM	100

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE AA AND GRADE AA, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED STORE DOOR, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE
JUMBO	100-110
EXTRA LARGE	98-105
LARGE	96-99
MEDIUM	87-90

PRICES TO CONSUMERS MAJOR CHAINS, METROPOLITAN AREA, USDA GRADE AA AND GRADE AA, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE
JUMBO	279-349
EXTRA LARGE	269-369
LARGE	239-249
MEDIUM	199-219

CENTRAL STATES BREAKING STOCK All prices were lower. Demand was light as many breakers were satisfied with current inventories or were awaiting lower prices on breaking stock. Offerings continued ample and included heavy graded loose shell eggs. Floor stocks fully adequate to ample. Schedules full-time. Trade sentiment weak. Prices paid, material exchanged, 30 dozen case equivalent, 48 lb., minimum net weight, delivered to breakers, cents per dozen.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
BREAKING STOCK	50-55	50-52
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	42-48	42-44
CENTRAL STATES AREA:		
AR,CO,IA,IL,IN,KS,LA,MI,MN,MO,NM,ND,NE,OH,OK,SD,TX,WI		

EASTERN REGION BREAKING STOCK Prices were lower when compared to early week trading. Demand was light and unaggressive for fully adequate offerings. Floorstocks were reported as fully adequate to instances ample for usually normal breaking schedules. The undertone was barely steady to weak. Cases broken under federal inspection for the week ending April 24, 2004 were 7% higher than Prices paid, material exchanged, 30 dozen case equivalent, 48 lb., minimum net weight, delivered to breakers, cents per dozen.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
BREAKING STOCK	53-57	54-55
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	40-46	41-44
EASTERN REGION AREA:		
AL,CT,DE,FL,GA,KY,ME,MD,MA,MS,NH,NJ,NY,NC,PA,RI,SC,TN,VT,VA,WV		

EGGS PROCESSED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION - W/E 24-Apr-04
(LBS IN THOUSANDS) (EXCLUDES INGREDIENTS)

	CASES BROKEN	LIQUID WHOLE	LIQUID WHITE	LIQUID YOLK	DRIED	INED
CW	1,275,904	29,940	12810	6,866	2,645	4,468
PW	1,250,367	29,610	11954	6,784	2,771	4,288
LY	1,140,780	26,695	11101	6,184	1,940	4,208
% CHG PW	2	1	7	1	-5	4
% CHG LY	12	12	15	11	36	6
2004	18,846,646	448,275	180256	100,196	41,091	65,784
2003	17,756,019	431,900	161567	89,334	35,852	66,076
% CHG YTD	6	4	12	12	15	0

	CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK	LAST YEAR
AVERAGE YIELD PER CASE - (INEDIBLE INCLUDED)	42.39	42.10	42.24
(INEDIBLE EXCLUDED)	38.89	38.67	38.55

NATIONAL LIQUID No pasteurized whites reported with pasteurized salt yolk reported from 53 to 57 cents fob. Trade sentiment was barely steady to mostly weak for whole egg, weak for yolk and cautiously steady for whites. Demand for all liquid products was fair to fairly good with contractual movement reported as busy. Offerings were adequate to fully adequate for whole egg and yolk and balanced for whites. Breaking stock prices were sharply lower when compared to last week's reported prices.

Prices paid cents per lb., FOB Plant to 10:00 AM non-pasteurized trucklot. For delivery within 14 days.

CLASS	LOADS	RANGE	WTD. AVG.	CHANGE FROM LAST WEEK
WHOLE	14	49.5-56	53.79	-2.32
WHITES	9	74.5-75	74.94	.35
YOLKS	14	51-53	51.86	-.29

EASTERN REGION FROZEN Majority prices were lower on whole, unchanged on whites, and unchanged to higher on yolks when compared to the previous week's trading. Trade sentiment was mostly steady on whites, unsettled on whole and mixed on yolks. Demand was reported as light to moderate with buyers cautious for immediate deliveries. Offerings were clearing to occasionally adequate on whites, usually available on whole, and in close balance to adequate on yolks. Liquid and frozen eggs (ingredients included) processed under federal inspection in the Eastern region for the week ending 24 Apr 2004 were 7% more than the previous week, and 23 % more than last year. Wholesale selling prices (cents per lb. in 30 lb containers)

	TRUCKLOTS RANGE	(MIN. 25 CONT.) MOSTLY	LTL RANGE
WHOLE	67-75	68-71	74-83
BLENDS (/)	TFEWR		86-95
WHITES	87-92	89-91	94-99
SUGARED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	61-71	67-71	73-80
SALTED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	63-68	65-67	70-75

(/)- Whole plus yolk plus sweetener, generally 20-32% egg solids.

CENTRAL REGION FROZEN Frozen whole egg ranged 2 to 3 cents lower with whites unchanged to 1 cent lower. Sugared yolk prices increased 2 to 3 cents with salted yolk unchanged to 1 cent higher. Trade sentiment was steady for whites with the balance of frozen products reported as under continuing pressure and rated as cautiously steady to instances weak. Offerings were adequate with demand seasonally average although improving for sugared and salted yolk. Contractual agreements were being met as previously agreed upon. Breaking stock prices were lower compared to the past week's reported prices.

Wholesale selling prices (cents per lb. in 30 lb. containers)

TRUCKLOTS	RANGE	MOSTLY
WHOLE	68-72	
WHITES	88-92	
SUGARED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	69-71	
SALTED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	65-67	

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA FROZEN Prices 4 cents lower on whole, unchanged on whites and yolks. Southern California breaking activity for the week ending 4/24 was unchanged from the previous week. Frozen demand light and freezer stocks adequate.

Wholesale selling prices, f.o.b. shipping point (cents per lb. in 30 lb. containers)

	LTL (MIN. 25 CONT.) RANGE
WHOLE	73-76
WHITES	94-97
SUGARED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	73-76
SALTED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	71-74

NATIONAL DRIED EGG REPORT Majority prices were unchanged on yolks and blends, unchanged to lower on albumen, but lower on whole when compared to a week earlier. Movement was moderate on whole and yolks, but limited this week on albumen. Demand was moderate but most buyers were closely watching further market developments. The undertone was usually steady on yolks, unsettled to mixed on whole, and generally steady with some softness on albumen. Dried eggs processed under federal inspection for the week ending 24 Apr 2004 were 5 % less than the previous week, but 36 % more than last year. The total year to date dried eggs produced were 15 % more than a year ago.

Wholesale selling prices, dollars per lb., in containers, trucklot & less-than-trucklot volumes.

WHOLE	2.69-3.20	MOSTLY	2.86-2.95
YOLKS	1.55-1.90	MOSTLY	1.60-1.65
ALBUMEN, SPRAY, DRIED	6.70-7.25	MOSTLY	6.90-7.10
BLENDS (WHOLE PLUS SWEETENER)	1.94-2.30	MOSTLY	1.95-2.00

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES WEEKLY WTD AVG PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR APR 23, 2004-APR 29, 2004**CURRENT LOADS** 68.25**FUTURE LOADS** 36.25**TOTAL LOADS** 104.50

	SE		NE		MW		
CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS
GNR W 1	53.00	—	57.36	58.75	—	—	8.00
GNR W 4	—	—	—	51.00	47.50	—	1.00
GL W J	—	—	73.75	75.00	76.00	—	3.00
GL W XL	—	68.32	68.17	68.47	60.80	63.19	56.50
GL W LG	—	—	52.50	—	56.00	—	8.00
GL W MD	58.00	56.00	58.25	58.89	59.05	—	25.25
GL W SM	41.00	43.00	44.50	46.50	—	44.00	5.00
NRBS - 48	—	—	—	57.00	59.67	58.20	72.50
NRBS - 45	—	—	52.50	53.20	—	—	2.50
NRBS - 42	—	—	—	—	43.00	45.00	4.00
NRBS - 39	—	—	46.50	48.00	—	—	.50
NRBS - 36	—	—	35.00	36.50	—	—	1.00

	SC		NW		SW		
CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS
GL W J	—	—	—	86.00	—	—	1.00
GL W XL	60.61	68.75	—	—	—	68.90	19.25
GL W LG	60.00	68.00	—	72.00	—	66.29	11.25
GL W MD	54.50	59.00	—	—	—	63.86	9.00
NRBS - 48	50.50	—	—	—	—	—	10.00
NRBS - 39	42.00	43.00	—	—	—	—	1.00

WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICES ARE LISTED FOR VARIOUS CLASSES PRICED BY ORIGIN AND/OR DESTINATION FOR 6 REGIONS. THE LOADS COLUMN REFLECTS TOTAL LOADS REPORTED AND INCLUDES LOADS WITH PRICES TO BE DETERMINED LATER. NRBS CATEGORIES REPRESENT NET WEIGHT-MATERIAL MAY OR MAY NOT BE INCLUDED. LOAD MOVEMENT REPRESENTS TOTAL MOVEMENT WITHIN 6 REGIONS.

LIGHT TYPE HENS

CENTS PER HEAD, GENERALLY FOR REMOVAL
WITHIN THE NEXT 10 DAYS
(INCLUDES HANDLING, FREIGHT AND ANY OTHER
CHARGES, WEIGHTS AVERAGE ABOUT 3.50 POUNDS)

EASTERN REGION LIGHT LIVE HEN Majority prices were unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Demand was at least moderate. Offerings of spent fowl were more than sufficient for trade needs. Processing schedules normal. Opinions on removal cost generally steady.

RANGE MAJORITY

REMOVAL COST 0-12 8-10.5

SOUTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Cost of disposal were too few to report. Demand was at best moderate for fully adequate offerings. Finished sales were fair. Schedules were normal. Opinions of values were expected to remain steady.

RANGE MAJORITY

REMOVAL COST TOO FEW TO REPORT

NORTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Removal prices were unchanged to higher. Demand was generally good as alternative users become more aggressive while offerings were about adequate. Feed ingredient values were beginning to open additional opportunities for producers of spent hen protein. Opinions of value were steady.

RANGE MAJORITY

REMOVAL COST 5-10.5 5-6

WEST COAST LIGHT LIVE HEN Plant schedules light to moderate. Offerings lighter.

SHELL EGGS-COMBINED REGIONAL

AVERAGE PRICES ON SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, GRADE A LARGE OR BETTER, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED WAREHOUSE, CENTS PER DOZEN.

REGIONS	EX LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM
NORTHEAST	78.50	78.00	66.50
SOUTHEAST	78.50	76.50	64.00
MIDWEST	74.00	72.50	64.00
SOUTH CENTRAL	81.50	77.50	67.50
COMBINED REGIONAL	78.29	76.18	65.61

Computed from simple weekly averages weighted by regional area populations.

NATIONAL CANNER FOWL MARKET Sales were too few to report on heavy canners. Light canners were generally unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Demand was at least moderate for lights; mostly fair for heavies with most available supplies being used internally. Offerings of light canners were in good balance; heavy canners were limited. Processing schedules were normal. Trade sentiment was at least steady.

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT FREIGHT COST

LIGHT CANNER HENS (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	HEAVY CANNER HENS (WITHOUT NECKS)
25-31 MAJORITY 25.5-26.5	TOO FEW SALES TO REPORT

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED

LIGHT CANNER HENS (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	HEAVY CANNER HENS (WITHOUT NECKS)
26-33 MAJORITY 28-28.5	TOO FEW SALES TO REPORT

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER INSPECTION W/E 24-Apr-04
(PRELIMINARY)

U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED DOMESTICALLY

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
	THOUSANDS		
HEAD	1,424	1,250	2,674
LAST WEEK	1,464	1,287	2,751
SAME WEEK YR AGO	1,880	1,242	3,122
TO-DATE/2004	20,758	20,220	40,978
TO-DATE/2003	27,591	21,360	48,951

U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN CANADA

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
	THOUSANDS		
HEAD	228	4	232
LAST WEEK	341	9	350
SAME WEEK YR AGO	134	4	138
TO-DATE/2004	3,769	53	3,822
TO-DATE/2003	4,660	61	4,721

SOURCE: AGRICULTURE CANADA, PLTRY DEVELOPMENT DIV.

TOTAL U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN THE U.S. AND CANADA

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
HEAD	1,652	1,254	2,906
LAST WEEK	1,805	1,296	3,101
SAME WEEK YR AGO	2,014	1,246	3,260
TO-DATE/2004	24,527	20,273	44,800
TO-DATE/2003	32,251	21,421	53,672

Inspected Egg Products-U.S. & Canada Export/Import Trade**U.S. Exports to Canada, in Pounds (000) (Preliminary)**

Week Ending April 10, 2004		Year-To-Date		
Type	2004	2003 /1	2004	2003
LIQUID	196	301	2,366	3,335
FROZEN	0	49	0	63
DRIED	0	0	154	135
TOTAL	196	350	2,520	3,533

U.S. Imports From Canada, in Pounds (000) (Preliminary)

Week Ending April 10, 2004		Year-To-Date		
Type	2004	2003 /1	2004	2003
LIQUID	29	41	1,196	1,620
FROZEN	45	37	464	1,206
DRIED	149	40	981	400
TOTAL	223	118	2,641	3,226

Inspected Shell Eggs**U.S. Exports To Canada, In 30-Dozen Cases (Preliminary)**

Week Ending April 10, 2004		Year-To-Date		
Type	2004	2003 /1	2004	2003
JUMBO	0	0	50	106
EXTRA LARGE	810	0	5,820	2,550
LARGE	180	1,430	13,753	10,863
MEDIUM	2,670	1,680	15,030	17,637
UNGRADED	9,123	3,720	38,167	8,016
MISC	270	30	6,184	3,342
TOTAL	13,053	6,860	79,004	42,514

/1 Comparable Week, to-date figures may not total due to rounding.

Data Source: Agriculture Canada, Poultry Development Division.

Source: USDA/AMS Poultry Programs, Market News Branch.

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS - (INCL GOVT STOCKS)
SELECTED STGE CENTERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	FREGS LBS	TURKS LBS	POP LBS
AM 04/26/04	3,263	182,085	44,852
AM 04/01/04	3,195	183,458	41,759
CHG	68	-1373	3093
PCT CHG	2%	-1%	7%

MOVEMENT OF EGGS INTO RETAIL CHANNELS

W/E 24-Apr-2004

SELECTED CONSUMING CENTERS	CW THOUSANDS	PW	PCT CHG PW	LY
ATLANTA	25.8	22.1	17	45
BOSTON	3.6	3.9	-8	0
CHICAGO	54.7	57.2	-4	47
DETROIT	24.0	24.1	0	1
KANSAS CITY	3.1	2.8	11	-3
LOS ANGELES	87.0	98.1	-11	16
NEW ORLEANS	9.2	9.3	-1	-8
NEW YORK	29.7	28.0	6	1
ST. LOUIS	16.7	14.5	15	5
SAN FRANCISCO	19.4	18.4	5	-3
TOTAL	273.2	278.4	-2	16
4 WK MVG AVG	325.4			

COMMERCIAL EGG MOVEMENT REPORT

W/E 24-Apr-04

(RECEIPTS FROM PRODUCERS)

REGIONS	CASES (IN THOUS)	PERCENT CHANGE FROM PW	LY
N. ATLANTIC	215.6	-8	-2
E.N. CENTRAL	524.4	5	4
W.N. CENTRAL	270.4	3	-1
S. ATLANTIC	178.9	-1	2
S. CENTRAL	102.9	5	12
WEST	174.1	-17	-4
TOTAL	1466.3	-1	2
MATCHED PLANTS REPORTING		85	85

NEW ENGLAND WEEKLY SHELL EGG REPORT

Apr 27, 2004

PRICES PAID PER DOZEN GRADE A BROWN EGGS IN CARTONS DELIVERED STORE DOOR.

	EXTRA LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
MAINE MOSTLY	129	124	101	74
	-	-	-	-
NEW HAMPSHIRE MOSTLY	122-126	117-121	94-98	67-71
	124-125	119-120	96-97	69-70
RHODE ISLAND MOSTLY	128-132	123-127	100-104	74-78
	128	123	100	74
VERMONT MOSTLY	130-132	125-127	101-104	-
	132	127	104	-

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